

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting HBV attachment to a hepatic cell, the method comprising the step of exposing the cell to a polypeptide capable of binding the preS1 region of HBV and having an amino acid sequence at least 90% homologous to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 as determined using the Bestfit software of the GCG package set with a gap creation penalty of 50 and a gap extension penalty of 3, recombinant urine derived protein, said recombinant urine derived protein being capable of binding to a purified HBV derived polypeptide thereby inhibiting HBV attachment to a hepatic cell.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said polypeptide is as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 or portions thereof.

5-8. (Cancelled)